



U.S.C.G. ENVIRONMENTAL TIMES

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The "Environmental Times" (*E-Times*) is designed to help you keep up with environmental information relevant to your job. The "Environmental Times" is provided for informational purposes only and does not necessarily reflect official Coast Guard policy. We encourage you to write the editor with questions, comments, or input for this publication. Contact Ellen Rosen at Potomac Management Group, Inc., (703) 836-1037 or e-mail erosen@potomacmgmt.com, or Martin Nguyen at Coast Guard headquarters, (202) 267-2342 or e-mail mnguyen@comdt.uscg.mil. Indices for *E-Times* are printed in the April/June and October/December issues.

"To cherish what remains of the Earth and to foster its renewal is our only legitimate hope of survival."
- Wendell Berry



AFFECTING YOU

Small Arms Ranges and Their Environmental Settings

Submitted by Martin Nguyen, G-SEC-3

A small arms range is a designated land or water area, including skeet or trap ranges, utilized for training or recreational use of small arms. Small arms include pistols, rifles, shotguns, and machine guns that use ammunitions of 50 calibers or less. In 1998, G-SEC-3 convened a working group including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, USCG R&DC, and field personnel, which developed ranking factors for prioritizing Coast Guard ranges for their potential need for eventual on-site remediation.

In prioritizing USCG ranges for potential remediation, we addressed the following questions:

- What is the throughput of projectiles (the greater the number of projectiles, the larger the lead source)?
- What is the age of the range (older ranges generally have more lead and more weathered projectiles)?
- What types of weapons are used at the range (jacketed projectiles pose more long term problems than unjacketed)?
- Is the range still active (an active range may not be subjected to RCRA)?
- Is there a berm that is no longer utilized (an unused berm is probably subjected to RCRA)?

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- Is there contaminated soil stored on site (would be regulated by RCRA and could be in violation of 90 day storage requirement)?
- Is the facility experiencing OSHA problems at the range?
- What type soil is at the range (this could affect vertical migration of contaminants)?

The following guidelines were derived from general consensus of the working group. The guidelines are applicable to USCG small arms ranges, and suggest safe management practices (and site remediation as necessary), in an effort to effectively balance operational readiness with protection of human health and the environment.

Safe Management Practices (SMP):

Responsible personnel are to develop a SMP plan for periodic monitoring of small arms ranges to minimize the possibility of "release" (as defined in CERCLA 42 USC Sec. 9601 (22)) of "hazardous substances" (as defined in CERCLA 42 USC Sec. 9601 (14)). This SMP plan should be implemented at each small arms range to prevent the release of, or mitigate the migration of, any contamination. The SMP plan may include, depending on range design and site conditions:

- Inspection and prevention of soil erosion from berms, aprons and other range areas as needed, and implementing simple erosion controls.
- Replenishing soil surface with gravel to minimize accident ingestion of metals/lead by wildlife.
- Installation of silt fences and/or hydroseeding to minimize the effect of erosion by Winter/Spring freeze-thaw cycles as appropriate.
- Implementing a monitoring program (for example, to assess if constituents are migrating off the range in storm water runoff or percolating into groundwater).
- Sampling of surface water, soil, and ground water.
- Providing range maintenance to prevent ricochets and to facilitate or promote scrap metal recycling. Established recovery and recycling protocols will be utilized to the fullest extent possible, while following standard occupational safety and health requirements.
- Posting signs of warning of the danger associated with the range.
- Erecting fences or other measures to control access.
- Suspending incompatible land uses, if possible.
- Implementing community education and awareness programs, if necessary.
- Adapting other effective engineering, institutional, or exposure controls.

Emergency Response:

In the event of a release of hazardous substances, responsible personnel, to the extent required by the quantity and nature of the release shall:

- Notify state and/or federal regulatory agencies, following notification procedures established in the chain of command.
- Mitigate or prevent continued release, if possible.
- Determine if additional remedial action is necessary.

By adhering to safe management practices, and having an emergency response plan in place, the Coast Guard can manage its small arms ranges in an environmentally sound manner. Mitigating or eliminating sources of air, water, or soil pollution ensures wise use of these natural resources, and effective stewardship of the land for the future, while accomplishing our mission today.

Environmental Y2K Preparation in the Coast Guard

On June 21, 1999, a message was sent to the field alerting them to the need for testing of environmental systems that might be at risk due to Y2K concerns. G-SEC-3 drafted the message after the U.S. EPA published on the internet its intent to waive 100% of civil penalties that might otherwise apply, and to recommend against criminal prosecution, for any environmental emission violations caused during testing of computer-related equipment by a facility.

Specifically these tests were for systems designed to avoid the effects of environmentally damaging spills, overflows, or other events that would normally have to be reported to EPA. Posted on March 10, 1999, the EPA policy also stated that the waiver was limited to testing-related violations disclosed to EPA by February 1, 2000.

Concurrence to the message was obtained from G-LEL and G-CFI, and G-S released the policy on 21 June, 1999. Subsequent follow-up involved answering several questions from field units in anticipation of December 31. No significant releases were reported from any Coast Guard facilities during this period.

If you would like more information or if you have any questions, contact Dr. Ken Malmberg (G-SEC-3), at Tel.: (202) 267-6214, Fax: (202) 267-4219, or e-mail: kmalmberg@comdt.uscg.mil; or Mark Zill (G-SEC-3), at Tel.: (202) 267-2345, Fax: (202) 267-4219, or e-mail: mzill@comdt.uscg.mil.



NEWS YOU CAN USE

Think Environment + Price + Performance: EPA's New EPP Web Site

by Tom McCarley, from the Mar-Apr 2000 "HTIS Bulletin"

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing is getting increased attention from all sectors of Government. This is especially

so with the Federal Government. President Clinton signed Executive Order 13101 on September 14, 1998, which mandates changes in the way Federal Agencies buy everything from copier paper and toner to military hardware.

Those in the procurement community will want to look at a new web site at EPA located at www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp/. The site encourages us to think about environment, price, and performance when making a purchasing decision.

The site contains primers for purchasers and suppliers on Environmental Preferable Purchasing (EPP) as well as success stories. A key feature of the site is an EPP database where information on a wide variety of products from A to Z can be found.

Those involved in Government purchasing will want to pursue this EPA site as well as that of the Defense Supply Center Richmond at <http://www.dscr.dla.mil/> where you will find information on a number of helpful, award-winning initiatives, for example:

- DLA Environmental Products Catalog
- DSCR Re-refined Oil Catalog
- Closed-loop oil program
- Vehicular Battery Consignment Program

References:

1. EPA's EPP Web site at www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp



ON BOARD

Coast Guard Protecting Our Oceans, Coasts and Inland Waters

The U.S. Coast Guard currently operates approximately 12,000 fixed lighted Aids to Navigation (AtoNs). These AtoNs are located on each U.S. coast and in all navigable waterways, and waters of the U.S. territories and possessions. Prior to 1973, used primary batteries on these AtoNs were discarded in the water or on land adjacent to the AtoN site when they were no longer useable.

In the early 1990's, significant public and governmental concern developed over these sites, and their potential

ecological impact on the terrestrial and aquatic environments. As a result, the Coast Guard has aggressively pursued an AtoN Battery Recovery Plan since 1995. At that time the USCG implemented a "cradle to grave" serial number-based tracking system for these batteries to ensure they are properly disposed of, and not dropped into the water or onto the land. Continually since then, the Coast Guard has worked closely with state and local governments, and has developed and implemented a recovery plan that combines the best of environmental awareness, technological development, and consideration for the earth's resources.

After surveying approximately 9,400 water sites, they have recovered 39,000 batteries (approximately 1.5 million lbs.). Today all such batteries are currently either recycled, or disposed of in accordance with appropriate state and federal laws. By 2001 the remaining 2,600 sites will be surveyed and recovery efforts begun. Phase 2 of the plan consists of researching approximately 12,000 inactive, historical sites to ascertain the extent of their impact on the U.S. waters.

The challenge is to recover or minimize the environmental effect of these batteries in restoring and protecting marine resources. The Coast Guard is providing the model for a comprehensive approach to protecting the world's oceans and navigable waterways from disposal of batteries.

If you would like more information or if you have any questions, contact Ed Wandelt (G-SEC), at Tel.: (202) 267-2369, Fax: (202) 267-4219, or e-mail: ewandelt@comdt.uscg.mil.

Coast Guard Winners of Department of Transportation Environmental Achievement Awards

As reported in Issue 99-5 of the *E-Times* newsletter, a call for nominations of the Department of Transportation (DOT) Environmental Achievement Awards was announced. This program recognizes individuals and teams of the DOT who demonstrate excellence and leadership in waste prevention, pollution prevention, recycling, and affirmative procurement.

The Coast Guard received one award for an individual and five awards for units. The details of the awards can be found on the next page.



	Name	Category	Title and Abstract
Individual	Craig Edmunds	Waste Prevention and Hazardous Waste	Waste Prevention Through Innovation and Improved Program Efficiency Mr. Edmund's simplistic approach to environmental management has proven to be an effective tool in achieving long-term environmental compliance for each Coast Guard unit under his guidance. Mr. Edmund's goal is to provide continuity as well as increased data collection systems and thorough training. His innovative approach to the proper management of hazardous materials has provided various units the opportunity to experience significant reduction in solid waste generation. Mr. Edmunds has initiated many pollution prevention opportunities for the units as well as provided extensive hands-on training and significant community outreach efforts.
	Air Station Cape Cod	Model Facility Demonstration and Hazardous Waste	Pollution Prevention Outside the Fence Line Coast Guard Air Station Cape Cod has distinguished itself as a model facility through integration of environmental awareness/responsibility as a fundamental business practice. Our Environmental Program incorporated training, engineering controls and best management practices to embody the spirit of Pollution Prevention (P2) into everyday operations. Moving beyond the fence line, federal, state and municipal agencies have recognized our environmental leadership and partnered to address regional environmental issues, hazardous waste management, composting, and future drinking water supplies. EPA recognized our commitment to compliance and P2 when we were selected as the first Federal Facility to participate in the StarTrack Program.
Units	Support Center Elizabeth City	Model Facility Demonstration and Hazardous Waste	Pollution Prevention Challenges and Successes at Support Center Elizabeth City Coast Guard Support Center Elizabeth City is a recognized leader in the development and implementation of innovative pollution prevention concepts and strategies. Through the dedication, teamwork and "can do" attitude of the Support Center Pollution Prevention committee, the host and tenant commands, and more than 1200 active duty and civilian personnel, Support Center Elizabeth City has become a model facility as evidenced by: 1) Reducing hazardous waste generation by 70% since 1996. 2) Reducing hazardous air pollutant emissions by 84% since 1996. 3) Recycling Program improvements resulting in an 876% increase in recycling profits since 1995.
	Integrated Support Command Alameda	Recycling and Non-Hazardous Waste	Solid Waste Reduction and Waste Oil Recycling at Integrated Support Command Alameda, Alameda, CA Integrated Support Command Alameda's recycling program includes cardboard, metal, office paper, waste oil and the use of a trash compactor. The program covers four High Endurance Cutters and twelve commands. The office paper recycling has generated savings of \$1,350. The collection and bailing of cardboard has generated over \$2,000 of income. The recycling program has reduced the refuse volume for the base by 59% in the last year. The overall recycling program has shown a projected reduction in the refuse contract of \$67,000 for Fiscal Year 2000.
	Group San Francisco	Waste Prevention and Hazardous Waste	Group San Francisco Waste Reduction Coast Guard Group San Francisco, located on Yerba Buena Island in the middle of the environmentally sensitive San Francisco Bay, is the landlord facility for a Buoy Depot which sandblasts navigational buoys undergoing periodic maintenance. Lead based paint (LBP) was removed from nearly 500 buoys by 1994. However, the spent grit was disposed as hazardous waste until 1998. In 1999, Group San Francisco resourcefully recharacterized the waste stream and decreased hazardous waste by 50,000 pounds and disposal costs by \$18,000. Due to the large decrease in hazardous waste disposal, Group San Francisco is now a small quantity generator.
	Integrated Support Command Kodiak	Affirmative Procurement	Affirmative Procurement of Carpeting, Paper and Outboards During 1999, ISC Kodiak enhanced its affirmative procurement program as a result of installing new carpeting in the administration building, purchasing post consumer product copier paper/printer paper, and 4-stroke outboard engines. The carpeting was manufactured with a backing that contains 100% recycling materials. The result is a carpet that is made of 52% recycled content material. Furthermore, this carpet is 100% recyclable when it requires replacement. The copier and printer paper used within the command contains 30% post consumer product vice 20%, thus keeping in the spirit of Executive Order 13101. ISC Kodiak consumes approximately 9,000 lbs. of paper each year through printer and copier use alone. The 4-stroke outboard engines are replacement motors for morale boats. These outboards have reduced engine emissions, thus reducing the amount of air pollutants released into the air. EPA will require this type of engine within the next few years.

Reduced Stratospheric Ozone Depletion and the Coast Guard

In the 1980's it was discovered that the earth's stratospheric ozone layer was being depleted by release of common refrigerants and fire suppressants containing chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs). Revisions to the Clean Air Act in 1990, and the Montreal Protocol resulted in a ban of continued manufacture of CFCs in the U.S. after 1995. CFCs were the largest category of ozone-depleting substances manufacture of CFCs in the U.S. at the time. Acting on that ban, the Coast Guard began a systematic effort aimed at eliminating use of these coolants and refrigerants throughout its cutter fleet in all but the most critical mission areas.

As of the beginning of the year 2000, the Coast Guard has successfully eliminated 96% of CFCs used for air conditioning and 67% of CFCs for refrigeration in its cutter fleet, and is aiming at 100%. Working with EPA, the Defense Logistics Agency, and the Department of the Navy, the Coast Guard continues to conduct research aimed at reducing its dependency on these materials used in other areas, while at the same time delivering mission requirements throughout the fleet.

In August, 1999, the Coast Guard Commandant released a publication that lays out a roadmap for complete cessation of use of ozone depleting substances, and includes alternatives and methods to manage these substances throughout their life cycle.

If you would like more information or if you have any questions, contact Dr. Ken Malmberg (G-SEC-3), at Tel.: (202) 267-6214, Fax: (202) 267-4219, or e-mail: kmalmberg@comdt.uscg.mil.

Who 'Ya Gonna Call?

As a continuation from last issue, the following are contact lists for individuals in the Coast Guard who are considered to be resident experts for particular environmental issues.

Whereas the follow-on survey to verify and expand on the previous results was performed over a year ago, G-SEC-3 would like to know if there are changes to these lists.

If you have any changes or questions regarding these lists, please contact Martin Nguyen, G-SEC-3 at Tel.: (202) 267-2342, Fax: (202) 267-4219, or e-mail: mnguyen@comdt.uscg.mil.

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NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVE PROTECTION ACT

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LEAD PAINT ABATEMENT/LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

SUBJECT EXPERT	PHONE#	EMAIL	LOCATION
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OZONE DEPLETING SUBSTANCES

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OIL & HAZSUB POLLUTION CONTINGENCY PLANS

SUBJECT EXPERT	PHONE#	EMAIL	LOCATION
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P2 AND YOU

2000 Pollution Prevention Award Winners

The results are in! The Coast Guard has announced the recipients of the Coast Guard's Pollution Prevention Award for outstanding achievements in the area of pollution prevention. These awards recognize long-term achievement and commitment as well as outstanding performance in 1999.

The three categories for the award are:

1. Source Reduction;
2. Recycling; and
3. Affirmative Procurement

(*added category for 2000 is "Environmental Excellence").

The winners are:

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Category</i>
Individuals	John P. Whitney (A/S Barbers Point)	Source Reduction
	Lewis Cartwright (ISC Boston)	Source Reduction
Units	Group Charleston	Source Reduction
	GRU San Francisco	Source Reduction
	ISC Alameda	Recycling
	ISC Kodiak	Affirmative Procurement
	*Air Station Cape Cod	Environmental Excellence

The panel had a difficult time selecting the most outstanding winners from a strong field of nominating packages including impressive accomplishments from ATC Mobile and ISC Portsmouth.

Air Station Cape Cod was selected for recognition as the unit with the best overall environmental excellence in 1999. They competed strongly in every P2 category, were selected by EPA Region I as a winner of their StarTrack Award, and have been nominated by DOT for the White House Closing the Circle Award. RADM R.F. Silva, Assistant Commandant for Systems (Chief Engineer) sent his appreciation to all the recipients for their outstanding performances and contributions to the success of the Pollution Prevention Program. The RADM Silva stated that he encourages all units to contact the winning units and individuals to learn how they can make a difference and to model their own pollution prevention efforts after them. The accomplishments of the winners will be summarized in a future edition of the *E-Times*.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

SEPTEMBER 2000

National Recycling Coalition Conference

Submitted by Barbara Latvanas (G-CPM)

The National Recycling Coalition (NRC) is scheduled to hold its 19th Annual congress and exposition from September 10–13, 2000 at the Charlotte Convention Center in Charlotte, North Carolina. This premiere recycling event provides a forum for business leaders, government officials, and individuals to network and discuss programs, policies, and new technologies in recycling. The theme for this year's conference is "Recycling: Investing in Our Future." Typically, the conference also includes Federal Government and/or Department of Defense program sessions.

The NRC is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the advancement and improvement of recycling, source reduction, composting, and reuse. It provides technical information, education, training, outreach, and advocacy services to its members in order to conserve resources and benefit the environment. Attendance at NRC's annual conference is strongly encouraged, as it provides a unique opportunity to meet with other Federal and state Government employees, as well as recycling industry suppliers, to share ideas, experiences, and knowledge.

Additional details regarding this year's conference will be released soon on NRC's web site. A registration fee of \$355 per government employee is required, however, a reduced registration fee of \$295 is available if your registration is processed prior to July 31. For additional information, you may call Ms. Rebecca Mebane at telephone 703-683-9025, extension 206, or visit NRC's web site, as follows: www.nrc-recycle.org

MARCH 2001

International Oil Spill Conference 2001

Submitted by LT W. Michael Pittman (G-MOR-1)

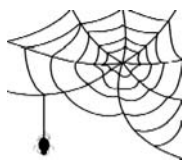
The International Oil Spill Conference 2001 "Global Strategies for Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Restoration" is one of the best opportunities for training/expert-to-expert interaction. The USCG has been a co-sponsor since the beginning of the Conference in 1969. Marine Safety and Environmental Protection professionals come from all corners of the globe for the 4-5 day event. Many CG authors participate in the presentations of professional papers with other experts from industry, government and the private sector. Attendees see the latest in Environmental Response Technology. The next Conference is scheduled in Tampa,

Florida, March 26-29, 2001, a great buy for under \$500. For an additional modest cover charge formal courses are available on a variety of related topics. Check out our website at www.iosc.org for the latest. The website is also a great resource for active environmental internet links. See you there!



CG PORTRAIT

[Ellen, place the interview with Bob Deering here.]



UNTANGLING THE WEB

New and Improved CHRIS

The Coast Guard improved and updated the best resource available, the Chemical Hazards Response Information System (CHRIS).

Chemical, physical, toxicological, thermodynamic, response and regulatory information can all be accessed from the new CHRIS. Everything one might want to know about 1300 cargoes is now organized in a standard format and can be found in one convenient source. (Unnecessary or obsolete data fields were deleted while many new fields were added.)

One final highlight is the introduction of electronic versions, both CD-ROM and Internet (in addition to the standard printed version). CHRIS is identical in all three versions although the expediency of the electronic versions cannot compare to the 3,000-page version in print.

How to obtain CHRIS:

1. The printed version: Order from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. Their telephone number is (202) 512-1800 (major credit cards are accepted). Please use order number 050-012-00406-4. The current price is \$90.00, post paid domestically, with an additional 25% for foreign postage.
2. CD-ROM: Please contact Commandant (G-MSO-3), Attention: Dr. Alan L. Schneider, at (202) 267-0031, or aschneider@comdt.uscg.com.
3. Internet: Available at: www.chrismanual.com.

If you have questions about getting CHRIS or questions about the data, please call Dr. Schneider at the number listed above.

Compliance Assistance Center Opened for Federal Agencies

EPA has opened the Internet-based Federal Facilities Compliance Assistance Center to provide federal government agencies with information on environmental regulations, guidance on compliance assistance, and links to state and other federal agency environmental home pages. This center is the tenth launched by EPA and is sponsored by the Federal Facilities Enforcement Office, which is responsible for ensuring that federal facilities take actions necessary to prevent, control and abate environmental pollution. The office also develops policies and guidance for federal agencies, helps negotiate interagency agreements, provides technical assistance and provides program, enforcement and information support to EPA's regional offices. The new center address is: www.epa.gov/oeca/fedfac/cfa.

NOTE: Other EPA's compliance assistance centers can be reached at: www.assistancecenters.net.



LESSONS LEARNED

"Experience is a great teacher...if you survive the lessons." -- (unknown)

"An Intern's Lessons Learned"

Submitted by Tracy Kuhns - Intern, Indiana University

I walked into the Civil Engineering office in Coast Guard Headquarters a little more than two months ago. The move from the Midwest to the East Coast was overwhelming enough, but to delve into a Federal Government internship is extremely scary, let me assure you. In a nutshell, here are some of the lessons I've learned:

1. **Don't be afraid to ask:** - I've gotten out of more pickles and learned more than imaginable from bombarding the people I'm surrounded by everyday with questions. At first I felt I was being annoying and pestering, but I soon realized where that line was between inquisitive and pestering.
2. **Network as much as possible:** - You never know where you'll make a contact. There are MANY great people working in the Coast Guard and it is worthwhile to meet them and broaden your horizons. I even met the Commandant and the Secretaries of Transportation and Education. Contacts with careerists and Feds outside the Coast Guard have been valuable to me, as well.
3. **Clarify assignments:** - When delegated a task, begin work promptly and ask your supervisor if your "plan of attack" seems correct and logical.

Feedback in the early stages prevents wasted time and efforts later.

4. **Stay Positive:** - There is nothing worse than working with a cantankerous co-worker. People choose daily if they want to be in a bad mood or a good mood. It is as simple as that. No doubt unexpected things will happen to you, but the way you handle situations reveals *A Lot* about who you are. Your attitude can help make a difference - stay positive.
5. **Be On-time:** Okay, okay-So I've overlooked this guideline a couple times. I'm not paid so I shouldn't get any penalties, here. However, at a real job, being on time reflects positively on you because it demonstrates your readiness to work. Plus, even though an intern is not paid, it is a reflection of what one would be like in the real world, so make sure your alarm clock and roommates are punctual.
6. **Don't forget to have fun:** -Life is hard. Work is hard. The trick is not letting work *consume* your life. I've realized that joking around and light-hearted teasing in the office lets us keep our sanity and humanness (Is this a word?). There is a time for being serious and a time for workplace humor...you'll discover them for yourself.

Keeping these "tips" in mind, go out and see where they can get you. Personally, Coast Guard has taught me some invaluable "life lessons". Gaining a sense of real freedom in the big city and seeing daily operations in a Federal Government agency will put me a step above (and ahead) of the rest in my graduating class. I look forward to applying all I've gained to my future career. Maybe you know most of these things already, but sharing my experience has perhaps put a new spin on things for you coming from an intern perspective. That's it for now: Semper Paratus! (Always Prepared - The Coast Guard's Motto)



ENVIRONMENTAL EXTRAS



Earth Day 2000

Although the event is titled "Earth Day," events and activities celebrating this noble ritual spanned and entire week. Coast Guard office and field units from all over participated in this annual event with planned events ranging from planting trees and road-side cleaning up brigades to visiting local schools to pass on the message of recycling and "beautification" of our earth.

A "special edition" of *E-Times* will be published to honor all those who organized and participated in Earth Day events. If anyone has photos related to these activities that we can use in the "special edition," please contact Ken Malmberg at Tel.: (202) 267-6214, or e-mail: kmalmberg@comdt.uscg.mil.



Editorial Policy: "U.S.C.G. Environmental Times" articles cover the entire range of environmental issues that may confront CG facilities, operations, project or activity planning, and policy making. The articles are intended to be brief, so they often provide a point of contact for further information. Suggestions for articles are welcome. Articles submitted may be edited for brevity.

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"As environmental stewards we must all think ahead in order to minimize the consequences of our actions on the air, land and water."

